

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEHRAN 07831 131416Z

43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

SAM-01 SAB-01 EUR-12 SAJ-01 /079 W

----- 052043

R 131255Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2954

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

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BEIRUT PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, IR, IS, IY, MU

SUBJ: SHAH PLEDGES COOPERATION IN GULF, CRITICIZES ISRAELIS,

TWITS QADHAFI

1. RECENT INTERVIEW WITH SHAH IN KUWAIT PAPER AL SIYASAH (UNDATED)
GIVEN MAJOR PRESS PLAY IN TEHRAN PAPERS AUGUST 13. AS TEXT
NOT YET CARRIED FBIS, HIGHLIGHTS FOLLOW.

2. PERSIAN GULF.SHAH PLEDGED IRAN WOULD CONTINUE TO COOPERATE
WITH GULF STATES IN REACHING REGIONAL SECURITY AGREEMENT WHICH
WOULD GUARANTEE INTEGRITY OF REGIONAL STATES. IRAN'S GOAL WAS
NOT TO IMPOSE ITS OR IRAQ'S VIEWS ON OTHER STATES OF REGION

IN THIS NEGOTIATING PROCESS. HE DENIED THERE WAS ANY SECRET
AGREEMENT WITH IRAQ. IRANIAN TROOPS FIGHTING IN OMAN WOULD
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PAGE 02 TEHRAN 07831 131416Z

BE REMOVED IMMEDIATELY IF SULTAN QABUS ASKED FOR THEIR

WITHDRAWAL. SURPRISINGLY, SOAH REFERRED TO CHINESE AS WELL AS SOBIET ACTIVITY IN GULF AREA WHEN HE REITERATED STANDARD IRANIAN POSITION THAT GREAT POWERS SHOULD QUIT THE AREA AT THE SAME TIME. (IN APRIL VISIT, VICE PREMIER LI HAD GONE OUT OF HIS WAY TO SUPPORT IRAN AGAINST SUPER POWER INFLUENCE IN THIS AREA, AND CHINESE EARLIER ENDED SUPPORT TO DHOFAR REBELS AFTER FONMIN CHI'S 1973 VISIT-TEHRAN 3122.)

3. ISRAEL: SHAH COMMENTED THAT TIME WAS NOT ON ISRAELI SIDE BECAUSE 100 MILLION ARABS WOULD EVENTUALLY OVERWHELM ISRAELIS UNLESS PEACE WERE NEGOTIATED. US WAS TRYING HARD TO HELP PARTIES REACH SOLUTION, BUT ITS INFLUENCE OVER STUBBORN ISRAELIS WAS LIMITED. ON OTHER HAND, THERE WAS INCREASING AMERICAN APPRECIATION OF ARAB POSITIONS.

4. LIBYA: IN SARCASTIC VEIN, SHAH SAID HE "QUAKED WITH FEAR" OVER QADHAFI'S THREAT TO SEND TROOPS TO GULF AREA. HE ACCUSED QADHAFI OF WASTING HIS PEOPLE'S RESOURCES IN PURCHASE OF ARMS LIBYA DID NOT NEED. DESCRIBING QADHAFI AS CONSTANTLY CHANGING POSITION ON ISSUES, SHAH SAID QADHAFI WISHED TO FURTHER COMMUNIST ENDS.

5 .DOMESTIC ISSUES: SHAH DEVOTED PART OF INTERVIEW TO DISCUSSION OF HIS PLANS TO BUILD POLITICAL NSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING NEW POLITICAL PARTY, WHICH WOULD STUDY HIS VIEWS AND PROVIDE CONTINUITY OF POLICY WHEN CROWN PRINCE TOOK OVER. ASKED ABOUT REPORTS NORTHRUP HAD BRIBED IRANIANS TO OBTAIN ARMS CONTRACT, HE PLEDGED IRAN WOULD ELIMINATE MIDDLEMEN IN ARMS AND OTHER PURCHASES AND WOULD NOT TOLERATE EVEN ONE-PERCENT COMMISSIONS. ALTHOUGH THERE WAS NO WAY COMPANIES SUCH AS NORTHRUP COULD BE PUNISHED, INDIVIDUALS WILL BE PRUNISHED OR REMOVED.

6. WHEN ASKED BY INTERVIEWER WHETHER HE THOUGHT U.S. OR U.S.S.R. WAS BETTER ALLY, SHAH IS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT WITH THE U.S. IT WAS POSSIBLE AT ANY MOMENT TO REVISE OR TEMINATE AN AGREEMENT, WHICH WAS PERHAPS NOT HTE CASE WITH OTHERS. THIS IS INTERESTING IN VIEW OF KING HUSSEIN'S STATEMENT AUGUST 7 THAT IRAN MAY BE REAPPRAISING ITS RELIANCE ON US AS SOURCE OF ARMS AS RESULT OF PROBLEM WITH HAWK SALES TO JORDAN.(CF PAR 1(B) OF AMMAN 5432) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HELMS

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